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CIVILIZATION JIHAD BY MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Abstract

The immediate notion triggered by the name of Muslim Brotherhood (*al-Ikhwan al-Muslimin*), an Islamic organization, involves the most radical form of Islam and the terrorist attacks conducted by Al Qaeda, Islamic State and other jihadist groups across the world. However, unlike the enumerated ones, which strive to achieve their goals mainly by means of terrorism resulting in violence and massive casualties, the Muslim Brotherhood maintains an extensive network of individuals and institutions, which, under the cover of humanitarian work, science, and various civil society foundations, seek to Islamize the region they operate in. The subject of research of this paper is the engagement of such entities in the United States of America (the USA).

Keywords: Muslim Brotherhood, Islam, Jihad, terrorism, USA

Foreword

In order to understand the Muslim Brotherhood organization, one should firstly look at their motto detailing ideology and the pursued goals: "Allah is our objective. The Prophet is our leader. Qur'an is our law. Jihad is our way. Dying in the way of Allah is our highest hope."[2] It clearly reveals the jihadist nature of this transnational entity seeking to establish Islamic State that will be having no borders and will be governed pursuant to the *Sharia* religious law. Aware that such goals cannot be achieved "by the sword", the Muslim Brotherhood has designed a concept based on non-violent struggle. The Brotherhood leaders declared the struggle on Allah's path waged in the US territory to be a 'civilization jihad'.[3] The Muslim Brotherhood are one of many but the most active jihadist lobby in the USA, with outposts throughout the world. Jihadist lobby can be defined as: *a totality comprised of persons and organizations seeking to Islamize the region of their operation by means of propagandistic and subversive activities*.

A document entitled "An Explanatory Memorandum on the General Goal for

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2 Quiggin Tom, The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada/USA*), Terrorism and Security Experts of Canada Network (TSEC)*, Canada, 2014, p. 4.

3 Ibidem, p. 7.

the Group in North America" drafted in 1991 by Muhammad Akram, a Muslim Brotherhood leader and its chief operative in the US soil, is the ultimate proof of this being a harsh reality rather than a conspiracy theory. This document details the Muslim Brotherhood's operation plan of action aimed at Islamization of the USA. At the outset of this Manifesto, the Brotherhood proclaims that the purpose of action in the USA is to establish a 'Civilization Jihad' with all the word means. Further, that the Brotherhood must understand that their work in America is a kind of grand jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western civilization from within and 'sabotaging' its miserable house by their hands and the hands of believers so that it is eliminated and God's religion is made victorious over all other religions.[4] The author specifies the following six points as the means of achieving the stated goals:

1. Establishing effective and stable Islamic movements which will be under the Muslim Brotherhood's control;
2. Endorsing the problems of Muslims, locally and globally;
3. Instituting and spreading Islamic base;
4. Consolidating and streamlining Muslims' efforts;
5. Presenting Islam as a civilization alternative, and
6. Supporting the establishment of an Islamic State, wherever it may be.[5]

The above clearly demonstrates that the Muslim Brotherhood's goals in America are long-term and based on the establishment of the base which will serve to facilitate, eventually, the Islamization of the entire society. This article will elaborate the first point, namely, the establishment of Islamic movements and organizations which, under the control of the Muslim Brotherhood, intend to wage a form of so-called Civilization jihad with a view to spreading Islam throughout the US. There are 29 organizations[6] listed in that Memorandum, and this thesis will delve into the most active ones, notably: the Muslim Student Association - MSA, the Islamic Society of North America – ISNA, the Islamic Circle of North America - ICNA, the International Institute of Islamic Thought – IIIT, and the Council on American–Islamic Relations-CAIR[7]. This paper falls within the politology of religion, a scientific discipline without which one cannot begin to understand most intricate relations between the Muslim population and the rest of the world.[8]

4 *An Explanatory Memorandum on the General Goal for the Group in North America*, The Center for Security Policy, Washington D.C, 2013, p. 6.

5 Ibidem, pp. 12-13.

6 Ibidem, pp. 31-32.

7 It should be clarified that CAIR is not included in the Muslim Brotherhood's Memorandum for operation in America because it was founded later, in 1994, but CAIR is certainly one of the Muslim Brotherhood's most important lobbyists in America.

8 See: Jevtić Miroljub, Political Science and Religion, *Politics and Religion Journal,* Vol 1, No. 1, 2007.

The concept of jihad

A better understanding of the operation of the Muslim Brotherhood in the USA requires a brief introduction into the concept of jihad. Despite numerous books, academic works, or formulated definitions, this phenomenon still raises confusion among many researchers. Phares states that, after the talks he has had with some 1200 professors from Oxford to Harvard, experts on Islam and the Middle East, he could only conclude that none of them was capable of defining precisely the phenomenon of jihad, while depicting it as a "benign, yoga-like, spiritual tradition of Muslims."[9] One of most complete definitions was offered by Miroljub Jevtić, who defines jihad as: „The system encompassing all actions and doings at both individual and collective levels, undertaken by Muslims to strengthen Islam and to broaden the community of believers."[10] Some Islamic scholars set apart greater and lesser jihad, particularly emphasizing greater jihad as the one true form of struggle in the path of Allah. The proponents of this concept of jihad typically invoke the hadith in which Muhammad, upon returning from the war, stated the following: "We have returned from a lesser jihad and now it is the turn of jihad of soul – greater jihad."[11] On the other hand, another group of more conservative Islamic theoreticians is explicitly against this division of the phenomenon of jihad, claiming that such division is a conspiracy of enemies of Islam, aimed at limiting the Muslims and separating them from the fullness of their faith. According to those theoreticians, *inventing inexistent hadiths* is merely a way to reach this goal. For instance, Ibn Taymiyyah, one of most prominent Islamic theoreticians of the Sunni Islam, held that cited hadith had no grounds, because it was not conveyed by those who had had closest knowledge of Muhammad's words and deeds, notably, the authors of the most respected Hadith Collections.[12] Anyhow, the fact is that jihad makes an integral part of Islam; at times, jihad is even considered to be the sixth pillar of the religion, whereas Shiites go as far as to consider it to be one of ten duties that each Muslim must practice.[13]

The Muslim Brotherhood's origins and organization

The Muslim Brotherhood is by all means the ideological precursor of all current Islamic groups aspiring to introduce global caliphate; hence, it is very important and socially justified to explore its emergence, organization and the guiding ideology it pursues for achieving its goals. From inception, the Muslim Brother-

9 Фарес Валид, *Рат идеја: Џихадизам против демократије,* Досије Студио, Београд, 2018, pp. 29-30.

10 Јевтић Мирољуб, *Савремени џихад као рат, Н*ова књига, Београд, 1989, p. 10.

11 Ibidem, p. 12.

12 *https://putvjernika.com/hadis-o-velikom-i-malom-dzihadu-nema-osnove/*, accessed on 05.05.2019.

13 Вукелић Милан, Појам џихада у активностима Исламске државе, *Војно дело,* 6, 2017, p. 455.

hood operated as a semi-clandestine movement, because Egyptian and British authorities considered it very dangerous for the establishment.[14] The Muslim Brotherhood is the oldest Islamic Sunni organization with origins in Egypt which, over time, from a small religious movement acting in shadows evolved into a powerful organization and, presently, a major political force in its home country. It holds under its control numerous sister organizations throughout the Middle East, which act as its extended arm.[15]

The Muslim Brotherhood's founder and mastermind was Hassan al-Banna, born in 1906 in a small Egyptian town of Mahmudiyya, as eldest of five sons to the father who was the local imam and a former student of the prominent University of Al-Azhar in Cairo. Very early, Banna became a member of the al-Hassafiyya Sufi order. Inspired by the Sufi ideology which he had passionately studied, he took part in establishing the Hassafiyya Mercy Group, whose principal purpose was to protect Islam from the influence of the Christian missionaries in the town. At barely thirteen, Banna became secretary of this religious group, which he had later on referred to as the forerunner of the Muslim Brotherhood. As a youth, Hassan al-Banna took part in protests that had erupted after the Nationalist Revolution in 1919. He understood that his country had begun deviating from the "ideal" and falling under the influence of the Western secular powers. He was in particular struck by the nihilism of the Islamic world and the waning influence of the religion on the society.[16]

Having understood that the only way out was in the restoration of the original Islamic teaching, Hassan al-Banna together with six other like-minded people, took to found the Muslim Brotherhood organization on 3 March 1928. Banna is believed to have personally chosen the name, and addressed his comrades by saying "We are brothers in the service of Islam, hence we are Muslim Brotherhood"[17]

Ever since was created, the Brotherhood has been a hierarchically strictly structured body under the full and complete control of the leader, divided into seven levels. At the top of the hierarchy pyramid was the supreme leader (Al-Murshid Al-'am), and then downwards management bureau (Maktab Al-Irshad), consultative council (Majlis al-Shura), administrative bureau (Maktab Idari), district (Mantiqa), division (Shu'ba) and family (Usra).[18]

The Islamic fundamentalist ideology championed by the Muslim Brotherhood was based on the division of the world into *'dar al-Islam'* and *'dar al-harb'*, the world of peace governed by the Sharia religious law, and the world of war encompassing the states that reject the Islamic worldview, respectively. These two worlds have to be in a permanent state of conflict until the whole world becomes

14 Јевтић Мирољуб, *Савремени џихад као рат*… p. 260.

15 Wickham Carrie Rosefsky, *The Muslim Brotherhood: Evolution of an Islamic Movement*, Princeton University Press, UK, 2013, p. 20.

16 Mitchell Richard Paul, *The Society of the Muslim Brothers*, Oxford University Press, New York, 1993, p. 1-4.

17 Ibidem, p. 8.

18 Al Anani Khalil, *Inside The Muslim Brotherhood: Religion, Identity, and Politics*, Oxford University Press, NY, 2016, pp. 103-104.

a single Islamic state, as in the times of Prophet Muhammad.[19] Banna believed that the Islamic mission - *da'wah*, was the only way to bring Egypt and the rest of the Islamic world back onto the paths of old glory. The Muslim Brotherhood depicted this undertaking as the struggle along the path of God, i.e., as jihad which needed to be waged in all of its modes, from the believers' inner struggle, all the way to the armed struggle in the path of God, with Banna having placed a particular emphasis on the latter.[20]

The defeat in the 1948 war against Israel, perceived by Muslims as a punishment for the departure from faith, brought great popularity to the Muslim Brotherhood because, even in defeat, they had been the only ones to prove themselves as true fighters for Islam. King Farouk, that-time ruler of Egypt, scared by the increasingly gained strength of Banna and his organization, abolished the Brotherhood on the charges of their endeavoring to prepare an uprising. Hassan al Bana was killed in 1949, and the Muslim Brotherhood went through a turbulent period and experienced many problems that, over time, contributed to fragmentation of the organization. The ideology of an armed jihad almost completely waned, replaced by emergence of some new and less radical methods to achieve the global goal, namely, to transform the whole world into dar al-Islam. The Muslim Brotherhood continued its struggle, not only in Egypt but also in other countries of the Middle East, Europe, and The United States.[21]

In 2011, the Muslim Brotherhood set up own political party called the Freedom and Justice Party,[22] and Mohamed Morsi, a prominent Muslim Brotherhood member, was elected President. In the 2011 elections, this Party won a landslide victory, and remained in power until 2013 when Morsi got ousted following mass civic protests.

Muslim Brotherhood activities in the USA

Following the developments of 1954 when Muslim Brotherhood members were accused of attempt to assassinate President Nasser (some conspiracy theories claim the whole event was staged), some of its members got arrested, and some managed to flee Egypt. Among the latter was Said Ramadan, a preeminent Muslim Brotherhood leader and Hassan al-Banna's son-in-law. Initially, Ramadan received asylum in Geneva; later on, he moved to Germany where he began setting up organizations which would act as the Brotherhood's extended arms in Europe, such as the Islamic Center in Cologne and the German Muslim Student Association and many more. It can be said that Said Ramadan was among Hassan al-Banna's most trusted persons, and the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood's

19 Јевтић Мирољуб, *Политикологија религије*, Центар за проучавање религије и верску толеранцију, Београд, 2009, p. 281.

20 Јевтић Мирољуб, *Савремени џихад као рат* . . . pp. 260-266.

21 See more: Ibidem, pp. 266-272.

22 Mellor Noha, *Voice of the Muslim Brotherhood : Dawa, Discourse, and Political Communication, Routledge*, New York, 2018, p. 7.

European branch.[23] The Brotherhood had its outposts in other European countries, too. In France, it established organization called the Union of Islamic Organizations of France,[24] which is still active to-date although under the name of French Muslims.[25] In the United Kingdom, in 1963 in London was established the Federation of Students Islamic Societies, FOSIS[26] whose motto reads 'Hold fast to the rope of Allah, All of you together, and be not disunited'[27], taken from Qur'an's Ayat in Surah 3, called Imran's family (Ali 'Imran).

At the same time, numerous members of the Muslim Brotherhood found a refuge from the Egyptian regime's persecution in the United States. Aware they could not pursue their operation outside Egypt by the means of lesser or armed jihad, the Brotherhood members replicated practice from many European and Middle Eastern countries and took to establishing various organizations aimed at Islamization of the host societies. For operations in the United States, the cited Muslim Brotherhood Memorandum instructs the following: "We must say that we are in a country which understands no language other than the language of the organizations, and one which does not respect or give weight to any group without effective, functional and strong organizations. I say to my brothers, let us raise the banner of truth to establish right. We want to establish the Group of organization, as without it we will not able to put our feet on the true path. And this was done by the pioneer of the contemporary Islamic da'wah, Imam martyr Hasan al-Banna, may God have mercy on him, when he and his brothers felt the need to 're-establish' Islam and its movement anew, leading him to establish organizations with all their kinds: economic, social, media, scouting, professional, and even the military ones."[28] Therefore, the quote openly reveals Brotherhood's intention to achieve its goal, that is, to introduce Islam as an indispensable factor in the US society, by means of civilization jihad through the operation of various civil society organizations. The concept and operation of these organizations in the USA are almost identical to those in other parts of the world wherever the Muslim Brotherhood has its lobbies.

In 2005, Muhamed Mahdi Akif, a prominent Muslim Brotherhood member, described his organization as one of the largest in the world, with members who acted globally and shared the same goal, notably, to keep spreading Islam until it conquered the whole world, and the only way to succeed is by jihad! He denounced Western democracies as fake and corrupted, intent to destroy Islamic faith and tradition. On the same occasion, he referred to the USA as Satan which exploited the religion and which would soon perish. He added he was absolutely

23 Quiggin Tom, The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada/USA), p. 24.

24 Rubin Barry, *The Muslim Brotherhood: the organization and policies of a global Islamic movement,* Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2010, p. 107.

25 See: *http://www.uoif-online.com,* accessed on 07.05.2019.

26 See: *https://www.fosis.org.uk*, accessed on 07.05.2019.

27 *Qur'an* (3,103), translation by Besim Kokut, Meshihat of the Muslim Community in Serbia, Novi Pazar, 2009.

28 *An Explanatory Memorandum on the General Strategic Goal for the Group in North America* . . . p. 22.

certain that Islam would soon rule both Europe and America.[29]

One among the first Brotherhood-sponsored Islamic organizations established in the USA is the **Muslim Students' Association (MSA)**[30], back in 1963 at the University of Illinois. The plan was for MSA to serve as an umbrella organization which would coordinate activities of numerous other ones operating on US soil.[31] It was created as a student group whose objective was to acquaint the non-Muslims with Islamic religion, through the means of various seminars, lectures, public events, etc.[32] Another objective was to assist Muslim students, during their stay in the US, and provide them with conditions to practice their religion without hindrance. Thanks to the MSA, a large number of US campuses have prayer facilities, ranging from small rooms to fully functioning mosques. On weekends, the MSA organizes lectures and discussions on Islam, hosts social events in the form of concerts in which, unsurprisingly, alcohol is not served. Concerts are a fine opportunity for Muslim students from different faculties to meet and connect. These events are very contemporary, performed mostly by hip-hop bends, intended to send the message that being a Muslim is more than just praying and fasting. At least once a year, the MSA organizes "Islamic Awareness Week" whose purpose is to inform non-Muslims about Islam and its postulates. Many Muslim students perceive this event as da'wah – Islamic mission, and a chance to convert their peers to Islam. Thus, they fulfill their religious duty.[33] In brief, the MSA which presently operates as MSA National, encourages young Muslims to publicly practice Islam so to publicly make their faith visible.[34]

This organization is shadowed by numerous controversies, most notably by its links to terrorist organizations. For instance, Aifa Siddiqui, a notorious Al-Qaeda member presently serving an 86-year prison sentence for the attempted murder of FBI and US Army officials in Afghanistan, during her studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was actively involved in the MSA-organized 'humanitarian' actions. In addition, numerous sources claim the MSA has been receiving donations from many suspicious NGOs affiliated with Islamic terrorist organizations, whereas the New York Police reports have dubbed this organization as an 'incubator' of terrorism.[35] Several other MSA members were accused of terrorism and participation in anti-Semitic rallies; the organization itself has been repeatedly inviting as lecturers the persons extolling terrorism and aggressive Wahhabi ideology.[36]

29 Rubin Barry, *The Muslim Brotherhood: the organization and policies of a global Islamic movement*... p. 161.

30 See: *http://msanational.org,* accessed on 08.05.2019.

31 Rubin Barry, *The Muslim Brotherhood : the organization and policies of a global Islamic movement*... p.161.

32 Quiggin Tom, The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada/USA)... p. 29.

33 Geneive Abdo, *Mecca and Main Street: Muslim life in America after 9/11*, Oxford University Press, UK, 2007, p. 194.

34 Ibidem, p. 195.

35 *https://counterislamic.org/free-aafia-siddiqui-the-terrorist/*, accessed on 08.05.2019. Also, see: *https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/apr/26/guantanamo-files-aafia-siddiqui-alqaida*, accessed on 08.05.2019.

36 *https://counterislamic.org/free-aafia-siddiqui-the-terrorist/*, accessed on 08.05.2019.

A very active participant in civilization jihad sponsored by Muslim Brotherhood's US affiliate is the **Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)**[37], headquartered in Indiana. This organization's proclaimed mission is "To foster the development of the Muslim community, interfaith relations, civic engagement, and better understanding of Islam"[38], and the vision is "To be an exemplary and unifying Islamic organization in North America that contributes to the betterment of the Muslim community and society at large."[39] The ISNA was established in July 1981 by Muslim Brotherhood members who had previously been executives of the MSA. Presently, ISNA is by far the largest Islamic organization in North America, active in the USA and Canada; its annual conferences number between 30 and 40 thousand attendees. Further, this organization's website has more than 2,6 million visits per month.[40]

ISNA is an organization whose links to Islamic extremism were acknowledged by the FBI. In a report back in 1987, the FBI identified ISNA as a front for the Muslim Brotherhood. A year later, the same source presented a document demonstrating that ISNA pursues an evident goal, which is to influence US legislature and political decision-making.[41]

What is particularly striking is the funding of Islamic organizations in the USA, including ISNA. In an interview for The New York Times in 2004, Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed, the organization's former Secretary General, said that ISNA had but once received a donation from 'moderate and well-intentioned' Muslims from abroad, and never again. It is commonly believed that such leaders by this organization's leaders of both US and Canadian branches, are false, and that ISNA routinely receives donations from Saudi Arabia.[42]

Another organization very active in waging 'civilization jihad' in the USA is the **Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA)**[43]. It was founded in 1971 in the Florida, just like ISNA, is a leading Islamic organization both in USA and in Canada. This organization's primary objective is to promote Islam and the Islamic way of life in America.[44] A specificity of ICNA is its 'female section' named "The ICNA Ladies", tasked with organizing activities such as reading the Qur'an and the hadith, various programs and trainings, with a view to promoting Islam among non-Muslim American ladies.[45] Identically to other Islamic organizations in the USA, which are the Muslim Brotherhood's extended arms, ICNA is also liked with terrorist groups,

37 See: *http://www.isna.net*, accessed on 08.05.2019.

38 Ibid, accessed on 08.05.2019.

39 Ibid, accessed on 08.05.2019.

40 *https://www.discoverthenetworks.org/organizations/islamic-society-of-north-america-isna/*, accessed on 08.05.2019.

41 Ibid, accessed on 08.05.2019.

42 Quiggin Tom, The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada\USA), pp. 57-58.

43 *https://www.icna.org*, accessed on 09.05.2019.

44 Esposito John L, *The Oxford Dictionary of Islam*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2003, p. 146.

45 Najmabadi Afsaneh, Joseph Suad, *Encyclopedia of Women & Islamic Cultures: Family, law, and politics*, Brill, Leiden, Boston, 2005, p. 618.

notably with Pakistani Jamaat e-Islami.[46]

The Brotherhood's list of friendly organizations includes the **International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT)**[47] founded in 1981 in Pennsylvania by Anwar Ibrahim, a Malaysian politician who had served as minister of finance and deputy prime minister, and by Prof. Ismail al-Faruqi who until his death was one of the most prominent members of the Muslim Brotherhood. The latter was killed in 1987 in front of his home in Philadelphia.[48] Formally, the main purpose of this Institute, established as an academic institution, is to reform and revive Islamic thought. According to them, the key problem of the contemporary Islamic society is the intellectual crisis. Hence, what need to be done is to renew the basic, integral knowledge stemming from the Qur'an and hadith and apply it in practice. This concept is also known as 'Reading Two Books'. Consequently, the IIIT is advocating the education reform in Muslim societies and the reverting to the studying the fundamental scriptures.[49]

However, IIIT and its members have often been associated with extremist Islamic organizations. During 2002, the FBI seized 25 computers to check the financial statements, emails, and data on the Institute's members, on suspicion that IIIT served as a front for funding terrorism. Among other matters, a jihadist group referred to as being directly linked with the Institute is the Palestinian branch of Islamic jihad (Harakat al-Jihad al-Islami fi Filastin). Eventually, the charges were dismissed, even though numerous agents who had worked on this case held there were sufficient evidence to justify the permanent closure of the Institute and the terrorism indictments against its members.[50] Still, one of IIIT activists, Professor Sami Al-Arian was convicted in 2006 for his collaboration with the above-mentioned Palestinian Islamic jihad, which he admitted. The indictment claimed that Al-Arian provided material support, extolled and assisted the group designated by US authorities as a terrorist one. Upon having served his prison sentence, he has recently been deported to Turkey.[51]

An organization that has been aggressively pursuing Muslim Brotherhood's civilization jihad in the United States is the **Council on American–Islamic Relations (CAIR)**[52]. According to American author Robert Spenser CAIR is probably the most prominent Islamic organization in the US.[53] This Islamic organization's

46 Esposito John L, *The Oxford Dictionary of Islam*... p. 146. Also see: *http://www.islamicpluralism.org/476/saudi-radicalization-of-us-mosques*, accessed on 09.05.2019.

47 *https://iiit.org/en/home/*, accessed on 09.05.2019.

48 Quiggin Tom,The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada/USA)... p. 34.

49 *http://rsn.aarweb.org/spotlight-on/theo-ed/islamic-theology/international-institute-islamic-thought-and-its-role-promoting-islamic-studies,* accessed on 09.05.2019.

50 *http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10/10/AR2006101001234_2.html*, accessed on 09.05.2019.

51 *https://theintercept.com/2015/02/05/sami-al-arian-charged-terrorism-never-convicted-deported-today-u-s/,* accessed on 09.05.2019.

52 *https://www.cair.com,* accessed on 10.05.2019.

53 See: Spencer Robert, *Stealth Jihad: How Radical Islam is Subverting America without Guns and Bombs*, Regnery Publishing, USA,

website states "CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims".[54] Yet, it is abundantly clear that behind this purported 'fight' for the rights of Muslims lies hidden tendency towards the complete Islamization of the United States. CAIR's skyrocketing expansion began after 11 September 2001, and it is presently active in 20-plus US states.[55]

CAIR's US branch was founded in 1994 in Washington DC, based at Capitol Hill. Its founders were Nihad Awad, Omar Ahmad, and Rafiq Jaber, former members of the Islamic Association for Palestine, IAP. US media often refer to CAIR as an organization closely collaborating with the Islamic Resistance Movement in Palestine, known as Hamas.[56] Even though CAIR members very successfully run media campaigns to portray themselves as victims of Islamophobia, their links to terrorism are almost impossible to conceal.

Several CAIR members were accused of direct involvement in armed jihadist activities. An illustrative example is Randall Royer, also known as Ismail, an American convert to Islam, who worked for CAIR in 1997 as an activities coordinator and communication expert. In 2003, together with ten other comrades (nine of them US citizens), he was a member of the so-called 'Virginia jihadist group' which, in collaboration with terrorist organization Lashkar-e-Taiba, one of largest Islamic groups in South Asia, has been plotting in conspiracy to commit terrorist attacks in US soil. Royer was sentenced to 20 years in prison.[57]

It should be no surprise that numerous jihadist lobbyists in the United States invested great efforts to lessen the value of document penned by Muhammad Akram, and even negate its existence. This paper offers one of many proofs that they have failed: the trial of notorious Holy Land Foundation, the largest Muslim charity in USA, whose five members were sentenced to long prison terms in 2008 for their support to, and the financing of, Hamas (including Ghassan Elashi, member of the founding Board of Directors of CAIR's Texas branch). When asked about the Muslim Brotherhood's document on operation in America, none of the accused disputed its authenticity, but instead all said it was an outdated, and hence irrelevant document. But U.S. Army Lt. Col. Joseph Myers, disagrees. He thinks this Memorandum is the reason why the Brotherhood should be viewed as a terrorist organization, and the Islamic organizations listed in the document, as parts of the network that should be closely monitored.[58]

It is simply unbelievable that mainstream American media wrote so little

2008, p. 102.

54 *https://www.cair.com*, accessed on 10.05.2019.

55 *https://www.ibtimes.com/what-cair-muslim-civil-rights-group-struggles-fight-islamophobia-after-recent-2210365,* accessed on 10.05.2019.

56 Quiggin Tom, The Muslim Brotherhood in North America (Canada/USA)... p. 108.

57 *http://www.danielpipes.org/3437/cair-islamics-fooling-the-establishment*, accessed on 10.05.2019.

58 Dreher Rod, Reporting the Muslim Brotherhood, *Current Trends in Islamic Ideology, vol. 6, 2008*, Hudson Institute, Washington D.C, 2008, p. 124.

about the existence of the Muslim Brotherhood Memorandum, a document that openly calls for Islamization of the United States and was even a subject of an FBI investigation. The reason is obvious. American journalists, intoxicated by political correctness, were reluctant to cover this story, so as not to hurt the feelings of American Muslims and be declared Islamophobes.[59]

A particularly concerning fact is that Muslim Brotherhood's lobbyists, disguised as human rights and civil society activists managed to penetrate the top level US officials. For instance, despite having been associated with the 1993 World Trade Center bombing in New York, Imam Siraj Wahhaj was invited as a guest both in the US Congress and Senate.[60]

Prior to being sentenced to 23 years in prison for funding terrorism, Abdul Rahman al Amoudi, founder and activist of numerous Islamic organizations in the US, has frequently been visiting the White House under Presidents Bill Clinton's and George W. Bush's administrations. In addition, al Amoudi was a donor to Hilary Clinton's senatorial campaign.[61]

Mere few days after Al-Qaeda's terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001 on New York and Washington, above-mentioned Nihad Awad, a CAIR founder, was invited by then-President Bush to a joint press conference intended to defend American Muslims against a potential growing Islamophobia triggered by the bloody toll exacted by Islamic extremists.[62]

Conclusion

After one of the darkest hours in the history of the USA, the terrorist attacks of 11th September 2001, which killed more than 3,000 people, the fight against terrorism became priority of all presidential administrations. President Tramp even based his campaign on combatting Islamic extremism, depicting it as one of crucial threats to the American nation. However, anesthetized by notions of liberalism and multiculturalism, the USA recklessly allowed numerous shady Islamic organizations led by the concept of grand/civilization jihad to infiltrate, under the guise of civil society, all seeking to transform the USA, in time, into an Islamic country governed by the Sharia religious law. Through its outposts, the Muslim Brotherhood is at the forefront of this cause. For years, the United States has been pursuing a flawed policy toward the Islamic world, a consequence of insufficient research and studying of the basics of religions, here, of Islam. Had the USA paid more attention to this phenomenon, it would have dawned on them that, for Muslims, coexistence with 'non-believers' was impossible. It can only be transi-

59 Ibidem, p. 124.

60 Rubin Barry, *The Muslim Brotherhood : the organization and policies of a global Islamic movement*... p. 163.

61 Ibidem, p.165.

62 Ibidem, see also: *https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010917-11.html,* приступљено, 10.05.2019.

tory until the entire society is islamized. The subsequent step is to expand onto the neighboring territories, until the whole world evolves into dar al-Islam. Regardless of an apparent untenability of goals pursued by Islamic activists, those still remain to be their religious duty, their struggle on the path of God, to which they have to stay devoted for the life. Provided, of course that, that they remain true believers and observe what was written in the Qur'an and hadiths. A non-violent struggle, meaning civization jihad carried out by the Brotherhood in US territory and in other countries, is a way to achieve it.

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